

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 remain herein for consideration. Reconsideration in view of the present amendment is requested.

Claims 1,3,4,7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over finney ('950) in view of Ruvang, Solheim and Nelson. This rejection is traversed because there is no suggestion in the references for combining them and even if combined they would not provide the claimed invention. None of the references or any combination of them disclose "an elongated neck fixed to and extending from said top surface and including a hosel with said hosel fixed at an angle to said sole and positioned forward of said face . . . said hosel opening having an edge lying substantially parallel with said top surface". Further, none of the references or any combination of them disclose "said head having a thickness between said face and back surfaces that varies in the head and toe regions from a maximum at the sole to a minimum at the top surface, and a thickness in a central region of less than 20% of the thickness in heel and toe regions".

For the above reasons, it is submitted that the claims as amended clearly and patentably distinguish over the cited reference. Accordingly, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain unresolved the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below indicated telephone number.

No fees are due. Please charge or credit Deposit Account No. _____ for any additional fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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